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MIAMI, FLA.
NEWS
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DEC 17 1968

File

Mrs. Hall

Garrison 'Ties' CIA To King, 2 Kennedy Deaths

Reuters News Service

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Garrison said in an interview that in President Kennedy's case "we have a great deal of data available. In the second case (of Martin Luther King) there's quite a bit of data now available — in the third (Robert Kennedy), there is just a little data available."

"However, there is enough data available in all three cases to state, as a probability, that they were all accomplished by the same force and that they were all intelligence assassinations," Garrison said.

Asked if he meant United States Intelligence, he replied, "Yes. That's particularly true with regard to the assassination of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King."

"I think all other alternatives are now clearly eliminated. These, I think, are clearly assassinations in which the Central Intelligence Agency is deeply involved," he said.

He said this did not mean that "the command came down from the top.

"But it does mean that at least a major component of the Central Intelligence Agency is now in the business of exterminating any national leaders who are opposed to the perpetuation of the Cold War, as well as to our adventures in Asia," Garrison said.

"And I think it will continue," he added.

Evergreen Review is a monthly publication devoted mainly to politics, literature and the arts.

JFK ACT RELEASE

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT

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DA says Kennedy, King killed by CIA

Agents of the Central Intelligence Agency are "deeply involved" in the killings of both President Kennedy and the Rev. Martin Luther King, New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison charged this week.

"I think all other alternatives are now eliminated," he said in an exclusive interview in the January issue of Evergreen Review magazine. Garrison, who charged in May of last year that the CIA was hampering his investigation into the President's death, also said there is a "probable connection" between the CIA and Sen. Robert Kennedy's murder last June. In the last killing, Garrison said, the CIA likely used "a cover organization." In other murders, he said, CIA agents were involved directly.

There is enough data available in all three cases to state, as a probability, that they were all accomplished by the same force and they were intelligence assassinations."

Asked by author Paris Flammonde if U.S. intelligence operatives are responsible, Garrison said, "Yes, particularly true with regard to the assassination of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King. I think all other alternatives are now eliminated. These...are clearly assassinations in which the CIA is deeply involved.

"This does not necessarily mean that the command came down from the top, but it does mean that at least a major component of the CIA is now in the business of exterminating any national leaders who are opposed to the perpetuation of the Cold War, as well as our adventures in Asia. And I think it will continue," Garrison said.

Asked if he believed a connection existed between the killings of King and President Kennedy, Garrison said he had "strong evidence."

Garrison charged that if Sen. Kennedy had lost Democratic primary in California, "he'd be alive today."

His victory the New Orleans district attorney said, marked him for murder because if he became President, he would disengage U.S. forces from military action in Asia.

He said Senator Kennedy had not contradicted the Warren Report on his brother's killing because he felt powerless to do anything about it "until he became President." Garrison said he had been contacted by the senator's emissaries who told him Sen. Kennedy understood, "There are many guns behind him and the White House."

Garrison said he had "no doubt Senator Kennedy would have reopened his brother's murder case if he was elected President.

"I think the fact that he (Sen. Kennedy) was killed so quickly indicates that there's no question in the mind of the cabal element of the CIA that he would reopen the case," Garrison said. "I think in his case they had no other alternative. I'm sure they were reluctant to have to go throgh another assassination; but they were not taking the chance of his becoming President."

Garrison said "the governmental power involved" will attempt to break up his Shaw trial prosecution by legal or extra-legal methods. He said he expects to be killed by the CIA. "I don't want to sound gloomy but my attitude is very simple. I do't expect to survive this thing (trial.)

But I don't worry about it. I'm going to keep pushing ahead. At least, they're going to know they were danced with."

The Evergreen Review is a monthly publication devoted to politics, literature and the arts.

NEWS

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JAN 12 1969

WAS THERE A PLOT TO KILL JFK?

ew Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison insists there was and he'll try to prove it next week in a bizarre courtroom allenge to the official conclusion that Oswald acted alone

By GEORGE NOBBE

CLAY L. SHAW, the New Orleans businessman accused of conspiracy in a plot to murder President Kennedy, goes on trial next week in one of the most bizarre cases in American legal history.

Quite aside from the enormity of the charge, the trial is expected to ripple with undercurrents of bribery, homosexuality, perjury, narcotics, politics and international intrigue. It may even shed some light on a series of oddly coincidental spin-off deaths.

Scheduled to begin Jan. 21, the long-awaited trial, delayed time and again by Shaw's lawyers, boils down to a showdown between New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison and the men who prepared the 26-volume Warren Commission report on the assassination.

The flamboyant and controversial district attorney insists a conspiracy of several men, one of them Shaw, was responsible for the death of Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963. The Warren Commission concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the assassination.

The last of the legal obstacles to the start of the trial was removed Friday with the denial of a fourth motion for a change of venue that would have taken the case at least 100 miles out of New Orleans.

Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty also denied a defense motion to throw out the indictment, which charges Shaw with conspiring in 1963 with Oswald, Jack Ruby, David Ferrie and others to kill Kennedy.

Said Haggerty: "I will conduct the trial even on Mardi Gras, if necessary."

Said Garrison: "There is no way that Clay Shaw can get an acquittal."

Said Edward F. Wegmann, Shaw's lawyer: "Clay Shaw cannot be convicted. He will be absolutely vindicated."

Obviously, someone is wrong. But who?

People in New Orleans are frankly skeptical of Garrison's case, knowing that the district attorney has a reputation for creating a theory to meet any contingency.

Still, they wonder why he would risk his career by trying a prosperous and respected businessman, however vulnerable his private life might be, if he didn't have something with which to substantiate his charges.

And what gnaws at the minds of people everywhere is this: if Garrison, granting his penchant for creating headlines, is right, then someone has told the world a lie so monstrous as to be virtually inconceivable.

That would mean someone either lied to or subverted the austere members of the Warren Commission; that the Dallas police department knowingly covered up a murder plot against the President; and that key members of the Central Intelligence Agency masterminded the whole affair.

Preposterous though that sounds, it is precisely what Jim Garrison claims he will prove in a New Orleans court room a week from Tuesday.

WITH theories implicating Cuban exiles, the Bay of Pigs invasion, the paramilitary right wing, Minutemen and double agents, Garrison scoffs openly at the Warren Commission and bluntly accuses the CIA.

"The main function of the Warren Commission," he says, "was to conceal the assassination of the President by an ambush of CIA employes, and they weighted the commission with men who could be counted upon to conceal the truth."

To this he adds, so far without any proof, this boast:

"My staff and I solved the assassination long ago. I wouldn't say this if we didn't have the evidence beyond a shadow of a doubt. We know the key individuals, the cities involved and how it was done."

Garrison's detractors doubt it. They say the district attorney simply wants a public forum from which to discredit the Warren Commission, a desire they say is born of his political ambitions.

Shaw himself said as much in a federal district court suit that reached the Supreme Court before it was thrown out. It accused Garrison of abusing his powers and sought "sanctuary" for Shaw from the district attorney.

What intrigues the New Orleans legal establishment, as well as the rest of the world, is what led Garrison to connect Shaw with this cast of psychotic characters:

Jack Ruby, an egocentric, smalltime nightclub operator; Ferrie, a convicted child molester, known homosexual and religious cultist, and Lee Harvey Oswald, a discredited Marine, self-proclaimed Marxist, and pro-Cuban agitator who once fled to Russia.

These were hardly the sort of people that Shaw, a man with the public image as a dynamic, intellectual businessman and cultural leader, could be expected to know, much less associate with.

Shaw, 55, has a sort of Stevensonian wit and urbanity that have made him a highly-prized after-dinner speaker. He has been knighted by the King of Belgium and holds high honors from several other European countries, including France.

Continued

Most of these honors have to do with New Orleans' International Trade Mart, a clearing house for trade with Latin American countries, most of which funnels through New Orleans. Shaw founded it after World War II, retiring as managing director two years ago to write and travel. The gleaming skyscraper stands today as almost a monument to the man who built it.

Shaw, with close cropped white hair and a deep tan, is an imposing figure at 6-feet-4 and 215 pounds. A bachelor who lives in a renovated house in the French Quarter, his tastes in everything from food to furniture are sophisticated.

Yet on March 1, 1967, Jim Garrison, the "Jolly Green Giant of Orleans Parish," as he is known to his friends, arrested Shaw, a man who two years before had been named New Orleans' most outstanding citizen.

The charge: conspiracy to murder the President. Bail of $10,000 was set by District Court Judge Thomas M. Brahney. Shaw posted it and went home.

Goaded by highly critical newspaper editorials the next day, Garrison said: "I have no doubts about the case, as I have said before. The arrest will hold up. If you want to bet against me, you will lose."

Said Shaw, in one of his infrequent statements since: "It is still hard to believe this has happened. I think about it 24 hours a day. Often when I go to parties, my friends will try not to talk about it. But, inevitably, before very long the conversation gets around to it. So I usually try to put my friends at ease by talking about it myself."

It was the day after Shaw's arrest that Garrison first revealed some of the details of his charges.

He filed a court affidavit naming Oswald, Ferrie and Shaw as conspirators who met in September of 1963 at Ferrie's apartment to plot the Kennedy assassination. He said he would produce a witness.

At the time, no one knew who that would be. The weakness of this maneuver was obvious: of those at the meeting, only the mystery witness and Shaw, if he was indeed there, were still alive.

Oswald, of course had been gunned down by Ruby, and Ferrie, in a state of paranoia and hypertension over his belief that Garrison thought he was the getaway pilot in the assassination plot, died in his bed a week before Shaw's arrest.

Though he left two suicide notes, the coroner ruled that Ferrie's death was due to natural causes.

Garrison's affidavit contained one other bombshell. It charged that Shaw led a double life under the alias Clay or Clem Bertrand, a name identified with the shadowy queen bee of the city's homosexuals. Shaw denied it.

BUT GARRISON wasn't through. He said his investigators had searched Shaw's home, hauling out cardboard cartons filled with papers and clothing as well as a black cape and hood, whips, tire chains, an Army issue cartridge belt, a shotgun and several account books. Shaw's lawyers said the search was illegal because their client had been under arrest at the time.

For nearly two weeks, New Orleans seethed with curiosity about Garrison's witness while Shaw remained at home in his remodeled carriage house, shunning reporters.

Why, the city wondered, would Shaw, an open admirer of President Kennedy, take part in an assassination conspiracy? After all, the trade mart had everything to gain from JFK's continued existence. The Alliance for Progress had opened new vistas for the mart in Latin America.

And why, they also asked, would anyone who heard a conversation about a conspiracy wait more than three years to come forward with his information?

Some of the answers came on March 14, when a panel of three judges began to hear testimony in a preliminary hearing to determine if there really was enough evidence against Shaw to try him.

The mystery witness turned out to be one Perry Raymond Russo, a 25-year-old life insurance salesman from Baton Rouge who had once been David Ferrie's roommate in New Orleans.

If Shaw was a pillar of New Orleans society, Russo's character was unblemished. He was the one solid figure among the throng of psychopathic liars, deviates and narcotics addicts that Garrison has waded through since he launched his investigation.

Russo testified that he had gone to Ferrie's apartment in September of 1963 with several friends. A party was in progress.

When it ended, Russo said, his friends left and the only people in the room with him were Ferrie, Oswald (whom he knew as "Leon" Oswald) and Shaw, whom he knew as Clay Bertrand.

In a moment of high drama, Russo left his chair to point out Shaw, who sat tensely in the courtroom. This was his testimony:

"The discussion centered around the fact that an assassination attempt would have to use diversionary tactics. There was talk of triangulation of crossfire as diversionary action.

"Ferrie would put up three fingers to demonstrate. One of the people would shoot a diversionary shot, maybe one or two people would do it and the third person would do the direct hit and be the good shot.

"Thereafter, one of these three would be termed the scapegoat. One of them would have to be sacrificed while the others got away by plane to either Brazil or Cuba."

ANOTHER TIME, Ferrie testified, he saw Oswald, who had originally met Ferrie at a Civil Air Patrol meeting, in Ferrie's apartment with a rifle. He said Oswald was sittin gon the sofa cleaning the weapon, which was equipped with a telescopic sight. He described the gun as an old fashioned bolt-action rifle.

At another meeting of the alleged conspirators, Russo said, there was an argument about where they should fly after the assassination. He said at one point Oswald leaped to his feet and told Shaw: "Shut up!" adding that Ferrie was the pilot and knew what was best.

Russo testified that Shaw's rejoinder was: "Well, he's a washed up pilot as far as I'm concerned."

Russo said he first saw Shaw at wharf dedication ceremonies attended by President Kennedy in New Orleans. He also said that he had identified Shaw as Bertrand when Garrison's investigators took him to Shaw's home and had him pose as a salesman.

There were holes in Russo's testimony. Among other things, hypnotic suggestion had been used in Garrison's office to help the witness reconstruct the events.

Also, Russo was incorrect when he said he had seen Oswald in New Orleans as late as October of the year Kennedy was shot. Oswald was in Dallas at that time.

And, on top of that, there was the damaging fact that Russo had appeared on a local television show three weeks before the hearing and said he had never heard of Oswald until he had seen him on TV after the assassination.

Shaw's lawyers ripped into Russo's testimony in a bitter, blistering but ineffectual cross-examination. Asked why he had waited so long to come forward with his information, Russo explained he was only 22 at the time and hadn't been prepared to buck the conclusions of the Warren Commission and the federal government. Then he added:

"I was just a voice in the wilderness. I left it to the professionals and forgot about it. Then Garrison began his probe and said he could prove there was a conspiracy, so I decided to write to Shaw."

Russo admitted that after the Kennedy assassination he did not definitely connect the man he knew as "Leon" Oswald with Lee Harvey Oswald, although he had seen pictures of Oswald on TV and in the newspapers.

Oswald wore a beard when he met him, Russo said, but was clean shaven after the killing.

Defense lawyers asked Russo if he didn't think it strange that three conspirators would let a witness sit in on the planning sessions if the witness had nothing to do with the plot.

Russo replied:

"Oswald looked up and said: 'What the heil is he doing here?'" to which Shaw added, "It's risky. We shouldn't have anyone hear that sort of stuff.'"

"Am I to understand that you sat there all through the conversation and said not one word?" asked one of Shaw's lawyers.

"Yes, sir," said Russo. "It was their business and I wasn't particularly interested."

Russo testified for three days, closing with the admission that he had been under psychiatric treatment for a year until the middle of 1960.

Following Russo to the stand was a self-confessed heroin addict, a Negro named Vernon Bundy, 29, of New Orleans, who swore that he had seen Oswald and Shaw together on the shores of Lake Pontchartrain the summer before Kennedy was killed.

Bundy said yellow leaflets fell from Oswald's pocket and when he later picked one up it was a Fair Play for Cuba Committee tract that Oswald is known to have passed out in front of the trade mart.

Bundy testified he heard Oswald ask Shaw: "What am I going to tell her?" a presumed reference to Marina, his wife.

He said Shaw replied: "Don't worry about it. I told you I was going to take care of you."

The defense position was that Garrison was resting his entire case on two questionable witnesses: a man who waited three years to step forward, and an admitted drug addict.

Continued

"This man [Shaw]," said William Wegmann, "is entitled to the benefit of the doubt because the state does not have probable cause. It might have suspicions, it might have theories, it might have beliefs, but we are entitled to walk out of this court without any stigma until such time as the state can produce evidence to warrant trial.

"You judges will be in the position to say to this man: 'You are one of the people who might have killed the President of the United States.' We beg for due deliberation."

His plea fell on deaf ears. The judges agreed unanimously that Shaw would have to stand trial. The decision came on March 17, 1967, Shaw's birthday. As the decision was read, he pressed down with his fingers on the defense table as if for support.

UNDER Louisiana law, Garrison could have filed the charge of conspiracy to commit murder with the county clerk and brought Shaw to trial. He chose, instead, to cement the authenticity of his case by submitting it to the Orleans Parish (county) grand jury.

If the blue ribbon panel refused to indict, what the three judges had decided would no longer matter. Clay Shaw would be free. Instead, the jury indicted him.

The name Clay Bertrand figured prominently in its deliberation. One witness, Jefferson Parish assistant district attorney Dean Andrews Jr., was subsequently indicted and convicted of perjury in connection with conflicting statements about whether Shaw and Bertrand were the same man. He is appealing the conviction.

In the months that followed Shaw's indictment—he is still free in $10,000 bail and will remain so throughout the trial—rumor was piled upon rumor as Garrison gathered more and more headlines with a cast of characters who, he said, figured in one way or another in the assassination.

Cuban nationals were prominent among them. Somehow, Garrison weaved the Cubans into his theory that the Kennedy killing was a right-wing plot, fomented by the CIA.

Incredibly, Garrison even charged that President Johnson knowingly concealed information about the death of his predecessor. He complained, too, that vital information had been put under seal for 75 years in the National Archives; he was only half joking when he told a reporter that the solution might come only in the year 2038 when the sealed information will be declassified.

Subpenas, extradition papers and wild accusations came with staccato rapidity after Shaw was indicted.

Word soon leaked that Shaw had made two slips when he was questioned in Garrison's office in December of 1966, more than two months before he was arrested.

Shaw swore that he had never met Oswald, but added that his assistant at the trade mart, J. B. Dauenbauer, had given Oswald permission to distribute pro-Cuban leaflets in front of the building. Dauenhauer denied this.

Then Shaw said he was on a plane to California at the time JFK was shot. In fact, he was already in San Francisco that day.

It developed that Garrison had become interested in Shaw when he learned that an old friend of David Ferrie's lived next door to Shaw on Dauphine St., and that Ferrie had made a trip to Galveston and Houston the day of the assassination. Garrison assumed (whether correctly or not remains to be seen) that Shaw and Ferrie knew each other.

Since it *was* known that Oswald and Ferrie had met, Garrison concluded that Shaw might have known Oswald, too. He came to a number of other conclusions also, most of them still unproved.

One of the most intriguing was that Oswald, instead of being the assassin, never fired a shot that tragic day in Dallas:

OSWALD, Garrison believes, was the patsy, the fall guy who had to be killed by Ruby to keep him from exposing the whole plot.

Garrison is also fond of theorizing that Oswald had a double on several of his trips the summer before the assassination to further blur the case.

He also believes, disconcertingly, that Ruby was injected with live cancer cells in the Dallas jail to silence him and protect the allegedly CIA-spawned conspiracy. He is not clear as to why the CIA would have wanted Kennedy dead, and talks somewhat disjointedly about CIA "displeasure" with Kennedy's moves toward a lasting peace with both Russia and Cuba.

The cancer-cell theory becomes even more disconcerting when you consider that David Ferrie experimented with white rats in his apartment in New Orleans, trying to inject them with cancer cells. But a good many aspects of the case are disconcerting.

Take, for instance, the extraordinary number of deaths of persons who, directly, indirectly or by the slightest of connections, were involved in the swirl of events around Kennedy's assassination:

1) Patrolman J. D. Tippit, who presumably stopped Oswald after the assassination and was shot to death.

2) Oswald, gunned down by Ruby as the television cameras recorded the scene.

3) William Hunter, a newspaper reporter, who reportedly once attended a meeting in Ruby's apartment, killed when a policeman's gun accidentally discharged in Long Beach, Calif.

4) James Koethe, another reporter at that meeting, attacked by unknown assailants who used a karate chop to murder him in his Dallas apartment.

5) Tom Howard, one of Ruby's lawyers, who died of a heart attack.

6) Thomas H. Killam, husband of a stripper at Ruby's Dallas nightclub, who fell to his death through a plate glass window in Pensacola, Fla.

7) Columnist Dorothy Kilgallen, who was granted a private interview with Ruby, died in her New York apartment of a combination of pills and alcohol.

8) William Whaley, the cab driver who took the fleeing Oswald home after the assassination, died in a car crash.

9) Karen Bennet Carlin, another Ruby nightclub performer and the last person to talk to Ruby before the Oswald murder, killed by gunshot wounds in Houston.

10) Mrs. Earlene Roberts, the landlady at Oswald's Dallas rooming house who died of a heart attack.

11) Nancy Mooney, a former stripper at Ruby's club, who hanged herself in a Dallas jail cell.

12) Lee E. Bowers Jr., a bystander who saw a car speeding from the grassy knoll in Dealey Plaza from which Garrison and several witnesses believe shots were fired the day Kennedy died. He was killed in a car crash.

13) Jack Ruby, who died of cancer at Parkland Hospital.

14) David Ferrie, the accused getaway pilot, who, a coroner said, died of natural causes—and left two suicide notes.

15) CIA agent J. Garret Underhill, who believed there was an assassination conspiracy within his own agency. He committed suicide.

16) Hugh Ward, New Orleans private investigator linked to Oswald, killed in a plane crash in Mexico.

17) Guy Bannister, Ward's partner, who died of a heart attack.

18) Robert Perrin, self-styled gunrunner and acquaintance of Ruby's, who was found dead of arsenic poisoning, a supposed suicide.

19) Rose Cheramie, who said she was thrown from a moving car by Ruby associates, was later killed in hit-and-run accident.

20) Dr. Mary Sherman of New Orleans, who was hacked to death in her apartment with a kitchen knife. She once helped Ferrie with his cancer-cell experiments on mice.

Such a list of deaths, even coincidental deaths, gives pause to even the most determined detractor of Jim Garrison. Are his wild theories really all that wild?

As one New Orleans reporter said of next week's trial of Clay Shaw:

"Jim Garrison may be 90% hot air but watch out for the other 10%."

New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison (left) accuses businessman and civic leader Clay L. Shaw (above) of conspiracy in alleged plot to kill President Kennedy. Shaw will go to trial next week in bizarre case which is really a challenge to Warren Report conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in assassination of JFK.

Continued

The Warren and Garrison versions of Oswald's activities agree that he was in New Orleans a few months before the assassination. This commission exhibit places him in the city on Aug. 16, 1963. Garrison says Oswald also was in New Orleans the following month, plotting Kennedy's death with Shaw and an eccentric ex-airline pilot.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1969

Garrison's Effort to Subpoena Kennedy Photos Faces Hurdles

Archives, Citing Proviso Set by Family, Opposes Use of Assassination Items

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10—The first legal test of the Government's shield of secrecy surrounding the death photographs of President Kennedy has begun in the courts here.

Harry R. Van Cleve Jr., General counsel of the General Services Administration, parent agency of the National Archives, said today that the Archives expected to resist efforts by District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans to subpoena the items.

The 65 X-rays, black-and-white photographs and color transparencies that were taken during the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital were not included among the evidence presented to the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination.

Instead, the items were given by the Secret Service to the Kennedy family, which donated them to the Archives on the condition that no one but Federal investigators be permitted to see them until Oct. 29, 1971. The family cited reasons of tas for specifying that no one but medical experts and scholars be permitted to see them after that time.

Ordered to Appear

Yesterday an order was served on James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the United States, to appear in General Sessions Court there to answer Mr. Garrison's demand that the articles be made available as trial evidence. Mr. Garrison asked that Mr. Rhoads be required to testify in the trial of Clay L. Shaw, a New Orleans businessman, who is scheduled to go on trial on Jan. 21 on charges of conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy.

In his petition, Mr. Garrison contended that the X-rays and photographs would show that the President had been struck by bullets from "at least two directions," and that the fatal head wounds had been caused by bullets fired from the front, not [illegible] The Warren Commission concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald [illegible]

District Attorney Jim Garrison seeks use of photos.

alone shot at Mr. Kennedy, firing from the rear, when the assassination occurred in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Mr. Van Cleve said in an interview today that several writers and others interested in the assassination had demanded to be shown the items, despite the conditions in the agreement between the Archives and the Kennedy family.

According to Mr. Van Cleve, some of these individuals threatened court action, asserting that the Kennedy family had no legal right to restrict access to the X-rays and photographs since they were taken by Navy personnel, using Government equipment and film.

The hearing on Mr. Garrison's motion, which is set for Jan. 17, could produce the first court test of this question. However, one Government source hinted today that the Justice Department might assert that the reciprocal interstate witness law under which Mr. Garrison is seeking the items applied only to witnesses and not to physical evidence.

Mr. Van Cleve said that the United States Attorney's office here would determine trial strategy but that he expected the Government to resist the effort to undermine agreements between donors and the Archives.

David G. Bress, United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, said his office has

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UNION LEADER
D - 56,042
NEW HAMPSHIRE NEWS
S - 48,544
DEC 29 1968

Suit Will Demand Release of Classified Files

New Probe of JFK Assassination

By ARTHUR C. EGAN JR.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 28 — A lawsuit to be filed shortly in federal court will petition for the release of all 'classified' files of the Warren Commission bearing on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

According to information conveyed exclusively to this reporter, the legal action will be signed into law by President Johnson.

When the Warrn Commission announced its findings in the Kennedy assassination it also disclosed the commission had designated a number of documents as 'classified material."

On the instructions of the commission, these documents the first step by a private committee of distinguished citizens and constitutional lawyers seeking to reopen the investigation of Kennedy's death.

UNDER 1967 LAW

The suit will be filed "shortly after the first of the year" under the new federal "Freedom of Information Act" of 1967 were placed in a vault in the National Archives with the contents to be kept secret for 75 years. It is these documents that the newly formed 'Citizens Committe" are attempting to have "de-classified."

Chief Justice Earl Warren, commission chairman, declared at the time of the commission's findings that the true facts of the Kennedy assassination plot would not become known "in our lifetime."

It is expected that Warren and the commission will oppose fiercely the legal maneuver to open the contents of the "classified documents" to public inspection.

MEETING DEC. 19, 20

The actual structure of the private citizens committee has been under discussion for many months and only in the last two weeks have plans been solidified into action. At a meeting in New York City Dec. 19 and 20, preliminary plans were made for formation of a non-profit corporation to carry out the new investigation.

The makeup of the newly formed citizens committee is known to the New Hampshire Sunday News but, at the request of the man who will act as chief investigator, it is being withheld at this time.

"A formal announcement will be made in the next week or two," the spokesman for the new group told the Sunday News. However, it can be disclosed now, that the private committee of noted citizens and lawyers will include also some of the top investigators of the U. S. Senate along with some private investigators who will be retained by the newly formed group.

'NOT FAR ENOUGH'

The new committee will be financed by individual contributions from dedicated citizens with the possibility that some government funds might be offered and accepted as the investigation progresses.

'We are not trying to discredit the Warren Commission findings. We feel the commission did not go far enough and is concealing a number of important items and testimony from the general public," said the committee spokesman.

Although not officially formed until last week, some members of the new committee have catalogued for many months, on their own time and at their own expense, the documents being held in the National Archives under the 'classified material" title.

The 37-page catalog, a copy of which came into the possession of the Sunday News, disclosed there are 1,555 "Commission Documents" being held in the vault. These range in size from single-page documents to documents of several volumes of diverse material. Some documents were printed as 'commission exhibits" and stored in the vault.

However, the "documents" being held in the vault were not printed in the 26-volumes accompanying the Commission's Report on the assassination.

One interesting fact noted in the 37-page catalog was that the Warren Commission reached its findings on the assassination without viewing the photographs or X-rays from Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Tex., where Kennedy died of his wounds.

The late U. S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy not only refused to allow commission members to see these exhibits but also withheld the autopsy report submitted by the Parkland Hospital physicians.

The catalog complied by the committee also disclosed that some documents in the vault were printed in whole while others were printed only in part. Many documents were split, some parts being printed and others parts unprinted. Many documents were neither printed nor made available to anyone but remain in note form.

The committee spokesman told the Sunday News that all testimony and exhibits in connection with Lee Harvey's Oswald's trip to Mexico was labeled "top classified material."

Oswald was the alleged assassian of President Kennedy.

According to the committee spokesman, all reference to an army private who had voiced advance statements about a plot to assassinate Kennedy was "classified material." The army man was picked up by the FBI, questioned, committed to a mental institution for a time and then released.

'He was scared into silence by someone—he won't even talk to one of our investigators," the spokesman charged.

The Sunday News, using the catalog of the "Citizens Committee," broke down the 1,555 documents being held in the National Archives vault for the next 75 years.

There are 194 "commission documents" which are "unavailable to the press, public or any committee wishing to conduct its own probe into the assassination of the late President. Of this number, 133 are from the FBI; 37 are from the CIA; nine are from the Secret Service; six from the U. S. State Dept.; two from Health, Welfare and Education, five from the Internal Revenue Service and two from a source not identified by the commission.

There are 525 "commission documents" being held in the Archives which are said to be "available" for viewing but these documents have never been printed — they are still in note form. This true also for 1,807 pages which remain unprinted and were deleted from documents which were printed.

There is no official explanation of why the documents were placed in the Archives vault in the "unprinted, note only stage."

Of the printed documents in the Archives vault, 491 pages of FBI testimony was labeled "unavailable" and deleted from the printed reports.

Two pages from a report submitted by the U. S. Senate Internal Security Subcommittee also was placed on the "unavailable" list along with a "selected sections of reports" from the U. S. State Dept.

"The Warren Commission, by placing these documents in the vault for the next 75 years, and using devious methods of numbering the documents, are preventing the public from analyzing the material being held back from the world in connection with the assassination," the committee spokesman claimed.

It was indicated that the newly formed "Citizens Committee" might appeal to President-elect Nixon to "order" that the documents be made public once he assumes the presidency.

OMAHA, NEBR.
WORLD-HERALD

M - 125,757
S - 271,988
DEC 12 1968

Garrison Sets Date in JFK Conspiracy Trial

From World-Herald Press Services.

New Orleans, La. — District Attorney Jim Garrison Wednesday set January 21 — the day after Richard Nixon is sworn in as President — for the trial of Clay L. Shaw on charges of conspiring to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Shaw, 55, would go on trial in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court in a jury trial presided over by Judge Edward Haggerty.

The United States Supreme Court earlier this week denied a restraining order asked by Shaw against Garrison which would have prohibited the District Attorney from prosecuting him.

Garrison says Shaw, the former director of the New Orleans International Trade Mart, conspired with Lee Harvey Oswald and "others" to kill Kennedy, a few months before the President was shot in Dallas November 22, 1963.

Shaw has denied all the charges.

Warren Commission

Shaw's suit before the United States Supreme Court said Garrison made him a "patsy" in a campaign to discredit the Warren Commission which investigated the assassination and to prove the Government was covering up vital evidence, United Press International said.

The Supreme Court turned down these contentions.

Shaw's trial on the charge has been delayed three times by legal maneuvering.

Garrison predicted that the Federal Government would escalate its efforts to obstruct the case, but he said he didn't know what the efforts would be.

Garrison assistant James L. Alcock said he expects new defense pleadings which may result in further postponement, the Associated Press said.

'Judgeship Offered'

Garrison would not comment when asked if he felt the Nixon Administration would de-classify remaining Warren Commission files.

He did say that an offer from an undisclosed source had been made him to resign and drop the case in return for a Federal judgeship.

The Warren Commission concluded that Oswald alone killed the President. Garrison contends the assassination was the result of a conspiracy, and that Oswald may not even have been the assassin.

Garrison said he was pleased that the trial would take place under the Nixon Administration.

"We hope the new Government in Washington will realize it cannot interfere with the trial of Sha win the state courts," he said.

Garrison several times has accused President Johnson of concealing information pertinent to the trial, including the "complicity" of persons connected with the CIA.

JACKSON, MISS.
CLARION-LEDGER

M - 55,209
S - 99,734
OCT 25 1968

MARK LANE SAYS

Garrison May Wind Up In Jail With CIA Squelch

STATE COLLEGE — A confidant of Ne wOrleans District Attorney Jim Garrison predicted here Tuesday night Garrison "may be in jail" next year in a Federla government effort to put the locks on his Kennedy assassination.

Mark Lane, author of the controversial bestseller RUSH TO JUDGMENT, told an audience of nearly 1300 Mississippi State University students that the Warren Commission's report on the murder of President John F. Kennedy is a "fraudulent document" which bears "no resemblance to the facts."

Charging that the assassination was plotted by the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency, Lane decired that the Federal government will try to delay the trial of Clay Shaw until Garrison leaves office next year.

Shaw is charged with conspiracy to commit murder in connection with the presidential killing, but, according to Lane, trial has been repeatedly delayed through "illegal" action by the Federal courts.

Lane said Garrison will not run for a third term next year, adding that a successor has already been tapped "pledged to drop the entire matter" of the investigation.

"Indications are that Garrison will be in jail on election day, charged with income tax evasion," he said.

Lane, who lives in New Orleans and claims to have worked closely with Garrison for more than a year, is a lawyer and former New York legislator. He said he spent nearly two and one-half years just reading the 26 volumes of testimony and evidence taken by the Warren Commission.

But he said the nation's news media had already appointed the Commission's report as truth before the same evidence was even available for examination by them. He said the press acted "as an arm of the federal government" in praising the Commission's report which he said was issued to reassure the public without regard to facts.

Lane contends there were at least five shots fired from at least two directions. He said the fatal bullet struck the president from th right front, scattering skull fragments behind and to the left of the car.

"Ninety-five per cent of the witnesses to the assassination of President Kennedy were never called to testify," he charged. He added that nearly two-thirds of them vowed in independent statements that at least part of the volley came from behind a wooden fence on a grassy knoll in front of the motorcade.

He said the Warren Commission rejected all evidence harmful to their "preconceived theory" that Oswald was the lone assassin and fired three shots from the sixth floor of the Texas Depository Building.

Lane described Oswald as an "employee of the FBI" and speculated that Jack Ruby, Oswald's killer, was a member of the "intelligence community." He also implied that the CIA had the President killed because Kennedy had been at odds with the spy agency over the Cuban crisis and Vietnam policy.

Lane also expressed suspicion there might be connections between the assassination and the murders of Martin Luther King and Senator Robert Kennedy.